

H. Res. 868

In the House of Representatives, U. S.,

February 12, 2008.

Whereas Congressman William Kent of California recognized the transcendent beauty and national significance of the coastal redwood trees and he set aside his private land for future generations;

Whereas Congressman Kent donated his lands to be known as Muir Woods in the State of California as the first National monument, presenting them to the United States Government as a gift to the people of the United States;

Whereas Muir Woods provides a keystone for conservation stewardship and a rich natural laboratory to explore the philosophy of its namesake, the admired conservation activist John Muir;

Whereas Muir Woods was recognized 100 years ago to be “of extraordinary scientific interest and importance because of the primeval character of the forest and the character, age and size of the trees”;

Whereas the Kent donation made it possible for President Theodore Roosevelt to exercise one of the Nation’s most unique preservation tools, the Antiquities Act, by declaring Muir Woods National Monument for the American people;

Whereas Muir Woods National Monument is preserved today through the dedicated staff and volunteers of the National Park Service;

Whereas on May 19, 1945 international delegates to the historic Charter Convention of the United Nations met in the beauty and peace of Muir Wood's Cathedral Grove to open the convention and honor the memory of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt; and

Whereas in 1972 Muir Woods National Monument became part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and today attracts up to a million visitors annually: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the foresight of President Roosevelt in using the Antiquities Act in declaring Muir Woods National Monument;

(2) recognizes the 100 years of careful preservation of America's Coastal Redwood forest within Muir Woods National Monument; and

(3) recognizes the natural and historical importance of the Muir Woods National Monument in the State of California and to the Nation.

Attest:

Clerk.